Frequently Asked Questions: Reporting TAA Case Management in PIRL

Q1: What are TAA Employment and Case Management Services (CM)?

ANSWER: Section 235 of Trade Act, as amended, (Trade Act) provides a detailed list of Employment and Case Management Services (CM), which includes assessments, the creation of an individual employment plan (IEP), information on training, career counseling, and other services. Details about the provision of these services can be found in TEGL No. 5-15, Change 1, Attachment A, Section G.

Q2: Are States required to provide CM?

ANSWER: Yes, this is required by the Trade Act, as explained in <u>TEGL No. 5-15</u>, Change 1, Attachment A, Section G. See also, Annual Funding Allocation TEGLs. As noted in TEGL No. 5-15, Change 1, a Cooperating State Agency (CSA) "...must offer workers each of the services set forth in Section 235. It must demonstrate that it has provided or offered these services either in a paper-based case file or in an electronic case management system, which must be available for review." The TEGL further states that, "The purpose of these employment and case management services is to provide workers the necessary information and support for them to achieve sustainable reemployment. Therefore, these services must be made available to workers over the course of their participation in the TAA Program, in an integrated manner that suits their individual needs at a particular time."

Q3: How is CM reported in the PIRL?

ANSWER: The TAA PIRL uses two CM reporting elements. <u>Date of First Case Management and Employment Service</u> (PIRL 902) documents the first time a participant receives these services. <u>Date of Most Recent Case Management and Reemployment Service</u> (PIRL 1322) documents the most recent time a participant received those services.

Q4: Can <u>Date of First Case Management and Employment Service</u> (PIRL 902) be the SAME as the <u>Date of First TAA Benefit or Service</u> (PIRL 925)?

ANSWER: Yes. <u>Date of First Case Management and Employment Service</u> (PIRL 902) and <u>Date of First TAA</u>

<u>Benefit or Service</u> (PIRL 925) can be the same date, especially at the very beginning of an individual's participation in the TAA program. A TAA Program participant receiving TAA-funded CM would trigger <u>Date of First TAA Benefit or Service</u> (PIRL 925) to be populated. Likewise, CM is likely to be the first TAA benefit or service because CM is often a first step to receiving other benefits and services.

Q5: Does a Rapid Response orientation count as CM?

ANSWER: Unlikely. Rapid Response orientation is generally provided as soon as, or shortly after, a petition is filed. At that point an individual who receives a Rapid Response orientation has not yet been determined individually eligible to participate in the TAA program and CM can only be provided to individuals who have already been determined individually eligible to participate in the TAA program. Therefore, it is unlikely that a Rapid Response orientation would include CM. However, if an individual was determined to be individually eligible for the TAA program and then received a Rapid Response orientation that included CM, then the State would be required to fill in a date in the Date of First Case Management and Employment Service: "...following a determination of eligibility to participate in the program"). In addition, in order for a Rapid

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Response orientation to count as CM, it needs to provide the specific individualized CM services described above.

- **Q6:** How often is <u>Date of Most Recent Case Management and Reemployment Service</u> (PIRL 1322) updated? **ANSWER:** <u>Date of Most Recent Case Management and Reemployment Service</u> (PIRL 1322) is populated as soon as the first CM event occurs and subsequently updated whenever a CM event takes place.
- **Q7:** What constraints apply to <u>Date of Most Recent Case Management and Reemployment Service</u> (PIRL 1322)? **ANSWER:** By definition, <u>Date of Most Recent Case Management and Reemployment Service</u> (PIRL 1322) will always be the same date as or later than the <u>Date of First Case Management and Employment Service</u> (PIRL 902) because both will be entered when the first CM event occurs with only the <u>Date of Most Recent Case Management and Reemployment Service</u> (PIRL 1322) element being updated for each subsequent CM event.
- Q8: Should <u>Date of Most Recent Case Management and Reemployment Service</u> (PIRL 1322) be the same as <u>Date of First Case Management and Employment Service</u> (PIRL 902)?
 ANSWER: Unless participation has just started, no. Because "...these services must be made available to workers over the course of their participation in the TAA Program..." (<u>TEGL 5-15</u>, <u>Attachment A</u>, Section G), the <u>Date of Most Recent Case Management and Reemployment Service</u> (PIRL 1322) will usually be a later date than the Date of First Case Management and Employment Service (PIRL 902).
- **Q8:** How often is CM required to be provided for participants who ARE NOT enrolled in training? **ANSWER:** For all participants, CM "...must be made available to workers over the course of their participation in the TAA Program..." (TEGL 5-15, Attachment A, Section G).
- **Q9:** How often is CM required to be provided for participants who ARE enrolled in training? **ANSWER:** Except for when participants are in short-term training plans, States are required to evaluate benchmarks, a kind of CM, at least once every 60 days to preserve eligibility for Completion TRA (<u>TEGL 5-15</u>, <u>Attachment A</u>, Section C.5.1). As such, for those in training, the most recent CM should be no more than 60 days before the end of the report quarter.
- **Q10:** Are CM expenditures reported in PIRL?

ANSWER: No. Because CM expenditures are difficult or impossible to track at the individual level, CM expenditures are reported in the ETA-9130(M), but not in the PIRL.